CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A ground stake comprising:

a shaft defining a shaft axis, the shaft further comprising a penetration end shaped to facilitate forcing of the shaft into soil and a driving end for driving the shaft into soil;

an attachment portion adapted to securely fasten an object to the stake;

a short vane depending outward from the shaft axis, the short vane defining a backfill space between the short vane and the shaft axis; and

wherein the short vane is effective in substantially resisting the removal of the shaft from soil into which it has been driven.

- 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the short vane is shaped so as to provide less resistance to driving the shaft into soil than the resistance to the removal of the shaft from soil.
- 3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the short vane lies a plane parallel to the shaft axis.
- 4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the short vane lies in the same plane as the shaft axis.
- 5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the short vane comprises an insertion leading edge and an extraction leading edge.
- 6. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein:

the insertion leading edge defines an insertion angle of attack; the extraction leading edge defines an extraction angle of attack; and wherein the insertion angle of attack is less than the extraction angle of attack.

- 7 The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the shaft comprises a wire rod.
- 8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the short vane comprises a shaped wire rod.

- 9. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the shaft and the short vane are made from a single shaped wire rod.
- 10. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising at least one long vane having a short vane portion.

11. A ground stake comprising:

and

a shaft defining a shaft axis, the shaft further comprising a penetration end shaped to facilitate forcing of the shaft into soil and a driving end for driving the shaft into soil;

an attachment portion adapted to securely fasten an object to the stake;

a short vane depending outward from the shaft axis, wherein the short vane comprises an insertion leading edge and an extraction leading edge and wherein:

the insertion leading edge defines an insertion angle of attack; the extraction leading edge defines an extraction angle of attack; and wherein the insertion angle of attack is less than the extraction angle of attack;

wherein the short vane is effective in substantially resisting the removal of the shaft from soil into which it has been driven.

- 12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the shaft comprises a wire rod.
- 13. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the short vane comprises a shaped wire rod.
- 14. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the shaft and the short vane are made from a single shaped wire rod.
- 15. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said short vane is made from sheet metal.